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For Immediate Release

## SRS SCIENTISTS AND ENGINEERS INTRODUCE MIDDLE SCHOOLS TO ENGINEERING

AIKEN, S.C., (March 1) – In honor of National Engineers Week, active and retired scientists and engineers from the Savannah River Site are going out in force to introduce middle school students to engineering.

Since 1951, engineers across the country have been participating in National Engineers Week, a national effort to encourage young people to consider careers in science, engineering and technology. This year students will be able to learn about many facets of engineering by participating in experiments and hands-on demonstrations supervised by SRS scientists and engineers to give them a taste of what it feels like to solve engineering challenges. Last year, they conducted these “teach-ins” at schools in 11 counties, reaching about 25,850 middle-school students in Georgia and South Carolina.

“The bottom line is that we need to start developing future engineers,” says Hiliard Sumpter, chair of SRS’s National Engineers Week activities. “To do this, we want to help students understand that science- and technology-based careers can be fun and rewarding. We also want to encourage students to take science and math courses that will lead them on a technology-based career path.”

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NOTE TO EDITORS: “Teach-ins,” with experiments and hands-on demonstrations, will be conducted at schools across the CSRA. There will be sessions somewhere in the region every school day from Feb. 28 – March 18. To accompany an engineer on one of their classroom visits, call the media contact listed above.

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#### THE WSRC TEAM

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